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19 February 1985

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Briefing of Senate Armed Services Committee on  
Soviet Strategic Developments and Trends

1. On 19 February 1985, at 0900 in Room 222 Senate Russell Office Building, the Senate Armed Services Committee was briefed on the current status of Soviet strategic programs. Agency security officers were present and a transcript was taken. The overall classification was at the Top Secret codeword level.

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2. Present from the Committee were:

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Barry M. Goldwater (R., AZ), Chairman  
Strom Thurmond (R., SC)  
John Warner (R., VA)  
Pete Wilson (R., CA)  
Phil Gramm (R., TX)  
Sam Nunn (D., GA)  
Edward Kennedy (D., MA)  
Jeff Bingaman (D., NM)  
Alan Dixon (D., IL)  
John Glenn (D., OH)

3. Present from the Staff were:

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James McGovern, Director  
Arnold Punaro, Minority Staff Director  
Christine Dauth  
Robert Bott  
Douglas Graham  
William Hoehn  
George Johnson  
Robert Bell  
John Hamre  
Russell Miller, Committee Research Assistant  
Karen Love, Staff Assistant  
George Smith (Sen. Goldwater's assistant)  
Francis Sullivan (Sen. Stennis' assistant)

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4. Present from CIA were: [redacted]

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Larry Gershwin, National Intelligence Officer for Strategic Programs

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[redacted] Assistant National Intelligence Officer for Strategic Programs

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[redacted] Office of Scientific and Weapons Research, Directorate of Intelligence

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[redacted] Office of Soviet Analysis, Directorate of Intelligence

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5. [redacted] Defense Intelligence Agency, was also present. [redacted]

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6. Dr. Gershwin was introduced by Senator Goldwater at precisely 0900. Most of the staff was present, however, only three Senators were in attendance for the opening remarks. Following this inauspicious start, membership rapidly reached a quorum and maintained this level for most of the session. For the benefit of the new members, the briefing was a comprehensive overview of the Soviet strategic programs, rather than an update covering the previous year. [redacted]

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7. Following a short summary of Soviet programs, Dr. Gershwin moved into their missile modernization efforts. Most of the questions fielded during the whole session were directed toward this arena, reflecting the current interest in our own modernization involving the controversial MX missile. Missile silo hardening was also a topic of great interest. Dr. Gershwin described the Soviet philosophy regarding super hardened silos culminating in a tutorial on cratering and the effects on a super hardened silo against a ground burst attack. [redacted]

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Dr. Gershwin verbally responded to a question: "What areas are we ahead of the Soviets and what areas are they leading the U.S.?" He then concluded the session with a short summary of the Soviet space program including their anti satellite capabilities. [redacted]

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10. For a complete range of questions, refer to the transcript. The session extended over a three hour timeframe and recessed before [redacted] was able to address the Soviet R&D production capabilities. [redacted]

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Liaison Division, OLL

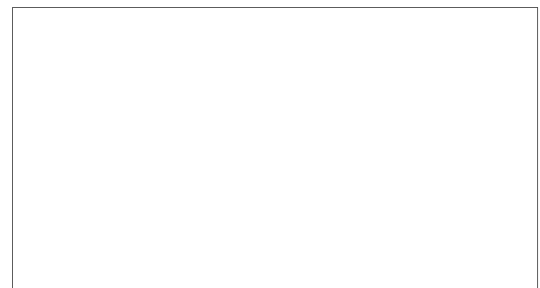
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